

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 10 are amended, and claim 3 is canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Claims 6 and 10 are amended for dependency. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments place the application in condition for allowance; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Huffman in the March 12, 2008 personal interview. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' record of the interviews.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants also appreciate the Office Action's indications that claims 3, 6, 7 and 10 include allowable subject matter and that claims 12-14 are allowable. However, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1, and claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 15 depending therefrom, are also allowable in view of the above amendments. Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that the application is in condition for allowance.

II. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,866,359 to Pan et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,322,194 to Silverbrook. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

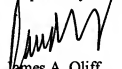
As discussed above, claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Thus, claim 1, and claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 15 depending therefrom, are in allowable condition. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 23, 2008

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